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Dated: March 14, 2003

Docket No.: 30266/37260A

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Tang, et al

Application No.: 09/894,912

Group Art Unit: 1647

Filed: June 28, 2001

Examiner: B. Bunner

For: METHODS AND MATERIALS RELATING TO NOVEL STEM CELL GROWTH FACTOR-

LIKE POLYPEPTIDES AND

POLYNUCLEOTIDES

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

This amendment is in response to the restriction requirement mailed December 18, 2002. This response is timely filed with a petition and fee for a two-month extension of time.